

In the Claims:

Claims 1-20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): An apparatus for transferring and releasing air-sensitive and/or moisture-sensitive and/or light-sensitive substances from a synthesis chamber to a test reactor, comprising:

- (a) a synthesis chamber for preparing an air-sensitive and/or moisture-sensitive and/or light-sensitive substance and enclosing the substance within;
- (b) means for protecting the substance;
- (c) a test reactor, wherein the test reactor is a stirred reactor or a pressure vessel having suitable stirring devices;
- (d) means for transferring the substance from the synthesis chamber to the test reactor; and
- (e) means for freeing, within the test reactor, the substance from the means for protecting the substance, wherein said means are capable of destroying said means for protecting the substance.

Claim 22 (original): An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the synthesis chamber comprises, within the synthesis chamber:

- (a) a substance carrier;
- (b) substance receiving means, on said substance carrier, for receiving said substance;
- (c) a substance metering unit for charging the substance into the substance receiving means;
- (d) a carrier which forms a base for the substance carrier; and
- (e) a closure apparatus for enclosing said substance within said means for protecting the substance.

Claim 23 (original): An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said means for protecting said substance comprises:

- (a) a vessel; and
- (b) a gas-tight cover or cover material for sealing said vessel.

Claim 24 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said apparatus further comprises ~~comprises~~:

- (a) a lock operably linked to the test reactor.

Claim 25 (original): An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said lock comprises:

- (a) a lock door for transferring the substance, enclosed within means for protecting the substance, into or out of said lock;
- (b) a gas filler port for introducing gas into said lock; and
- (c) a gas outlet port for removing gas from said lock.

Claim 26 (original): An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said means for transferring comprises a robot.

Claim 27 (currently amended): An apparatus for transferring and releasing air-sensitive and/or moisture-sensitive and/or light-sensitive substances from a synthesis chamber to a test reactor, comprising:

- (a) a synthesis chamber for preparing ~~an~~ air-sensitive and/or moisture-sensitive and/or light-sensitive substances in closed vessels and ~~enclosing the substance within~~;
- (b) ~~means for protecting the substance comprising~~ each closed vessel within the synthesis chamber having an opening;
- (c) ~~a~~ at least one test reactor;
- (d) connection lines in fluid connection between the opening of the closed vessel and the test reactor; and
- (e) means for transferring the substance in the closed vessel with an opening from the synthesis chamber to the test reactor comprising at least one multiport valve for determining which substance to transfer from a closed vessel with an opening to the test reactor.

Claim 28 (original): An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said means for transferring comprises a pump in fluid communication between the substance and the test reactor.

Claim 29 (original): Apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said means for transferring comprises at least one electronically-controlled, fully automatic apparatus.

Claim 30 (currently amended): An apparatus for transferring and releasing air-sensitive and/or moisture-sensitive and/or light-sensitive substances from a synthesis chamber to a test reactor, comprising:

- (a) a synthesis chamber for preparing an air-sensitive and/or moisture-sensitive and/or light-sensitive substance and enclosing the substance within
- (b) a sealable vessel for protecting the substance;
- (c) a test reactor;
- (d) an electronically-controlled, fully-automatic apparatus or a robot for transferring the substance from the synthesis chamber to the test reactor;
- (e) means for freeing, within the test reactor, the substance from the sealable vessel, wherein said means are capable of destroying said sealable vessel.

Claim 31 (cancelled)